Patent claims

1.-8. (cancelled)

9. (new) A device for engineering and/or configuring an automation system, comprising:

a memory for storing files needed and/or created for the engineering and/or configuring; and

an interface for providing access to program files and/or data files by a remote client, wherein the interface comprises:

a first mechanism for transmitting a copy of a stored file to the remote client; and

a second mechanism for receiving files created and/or modified by the remote client.

10. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 9, wherein the remote client is embodied as a browser-based client which communicates via an Internet or Intranet data line with the interface.

11. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 9, wherein the first and second mechanism of the interface are embodied as file format conversion mechanisms.

12. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 10, wherein the first and second mechanism of the interface are embodied as file format conversion mechanisms.

13. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 11, wherein the file format conversion mechanisms convert the files from a format which can be processed by the device into a file format which can be processed by the client and vice versa.

14. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 11, wherein the file format conversion mechanisms provide conversion means for

graphics files and conversion means for text files.

15. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 12, wherein the file format conversion mechanisms provide conversion means for graphics files and conversion means for text files.

16. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 13, wherein the file format conversion mechanisms provide conversion means for graphics files and conversion means for text files.

17. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 14, wherein the conversion means for graphics files convert graphics files stored in the memory into an SVG format that can be processed by the remote client and vice versa.

18. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 14, wherein the conversion means for text files convert the text files stored in the memory into a DHTML format which can be processed by the remote client.

19. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the conversion means for text files convert the text files stored in the memory into a DHTML format which can be processed by the remote client.

20. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 9, further comprising an access management device, which, if more than one remote client accesses a file stored in the memory, only allows access by one of these remote clients.

21. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 10, further comprising an access management device, which, if more than one remote client accesses a file stored in the memory, only allows access by one of these remote clients.

22. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 11, further comprising an access management device, which, if more than one remote client accesses a file stored in the memory, only allows access by one of these remote clients.

23. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 13, further comprising an access management device, which, if more than one remote client accesses a file stored in the memory, only allows access by one of these remote clients.

24. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 14, further comprising an access management device, which, if more than one remote client accesses a file stored in the memory, only allows access by one of these remote clients.

25. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 17, further comprising an access management device, which, if more than one remote client accesses a file stored in the memory, only allows access by one of these remote clients.

26. (new) The device in accordance with Claim 18, further comprising an access management device, which, if more than one remote client accesses a file stored in the memory, only allows access by one of these remote clients.

27. (new) A device for developing, producing and/or configuring an automation system, comprising:

a storage system, in which are stored the files needed and/or created for the production and/or configuration; and

an interface via which a remote client accesses program files and/or data files, wherein the interface features first means for transmitting to one or more remote clients a copy of the file or of each of the files stored in the storage system, and that the interface features second means for receiving files created and/or modified from the remote client or from

each remote client.